

**Joint City of Franklin Common Council & Franklin School Board  
Special Meeting Minutes  
September 25, 2014**

The special joint meeting of the Common Council of the City of Franklin, Indiana, and the Franklin School Board was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at Franklin Community High School, 2600 Cumberland Drive, with Dr. David Clendening residing. Council members Joseph Ault, Kenneth Austin, Stephen Barnett, Robert Henderson, and Richard Wertz answered roll call. Council members Stephen Houglund, and Joseph Abban were absent.

An invocation was given, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

**New Business**

**Special Recognition of First Responders** – School Superintendent Dr. Clendening, School Board President Thompson, Mayor McGuinness & Council President Barnett gave out Certificates of Recognition to the following First Responders to the Blue River Dam accident which took place last June: Members of the Department of Natural Resources; Bargersville Fire Department; Edinburgh Fire Department; Edinburgh Police Department; Johnson County Sheriff's Office; Shelbyville Fire Department; Franklin Fire Department; Seals Ambulance EMT's; Who So Ever Will Church; & Mr. Robert Jesse. Mayor McGuinness thanked all of the City of Franklin staff especially Communications Director Angie Longtin. Franklin School official Deb Brown-Nally came forward and stated that she was speaking for all of the families involved, she thanked everyone who helped in the search and rescue effort, and for the memorial services given for the two boys lost in the tragedy. Ms. Brown-Nally also thanked all of the volunteers who had helped raise money for the families involved.

**Franklin Community Schools Discussion**

**School Letter Grades** - Dr. David Clendening stated that in the five (5) years that he had been at Franklin Community Schools they had seen an increase in the success of their students. Dr. Clendening stated that the following goals represent the school corporations mission statement; Collaboration: Partnership; Innovation; Over the last five (5) years they have seen students earn the highest grades ever.

**Chromebook Update** – School employees Matt Sprout and Leah Wooldridge gave an overview of the Chromebook project and how they have implemented them into the curriculum at the high school. Mr. Sprout stated that they have been communicating directly with Google and will hold a Google training session at the high school in April of 2015. This will be a three (3) day event and should have an economic impact of approximately \$180,000 to the local economy.

**Financial Overview** – School Finance Official Mr. Jeff Mercer gave a general fund overview and explained issues caused by the Circuit Breaker loss due to property tax caps of \$3.28 million dollars.

**Safe Routes to School** - Mr. Bill Doty introduced Corey Daily of HWC Engineering. Mr. Daily stated that he is working with City Engineer Underhill on a citywide trails grant concerning safer walking and

to tie into the existing city trails system. They are working on a master plan, implementation, and infrastructure improvements. Mr. Daily stated that National Walk to school day is 10/8/14, and that they are working on wayfinding signs on school campuses and have planned a bike rodeo obstacle course to teach bicycle safety. Mr. Doty stated that many of the elementary schools already have walking field trips.

**Franklin City Council Discussion**

**Interstate 65 Interchange Update** - Mayor McGuinness stated that the City is focusing on the I-65 ramp and King Street with HWC Engineering. The Mayor stated he worked with INDOT starting in 2012 to get control over State Road 44 / Jefferson Street. Since the State turned over the section running through Franklin, the city is working to get additional funding through the MPO. The Mayor stated that I-65 will be expanded into three lanes next year, and that his team is working on getting sound barriers installed near the interstate for residential neighborhoods whose properties adjoin the interstate. Mayor McGuinness closed his comments by thanking Dr. Clendening and the School Board for all of the work they do.

Since there was no further business on the agenda Board President Thompson adjourned the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer  
Enrolled: 10/02/2014

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Joseph McGuinness, Mayor

Attest:

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Janet P. Alexander, Clerk-Treasurer